

Archie
ADVENTURE
SERIES

NO.
122 US \$2.19



SONIC™



THE HEDGEHOG

NACK
IS BACK TO
INTERRUPT
SONIC'S
LOVE
TRIANGLE
TROUBLE
IN THREE
TWO—
"Heart
Held
Hostage:
PART ONE"



PLUS:

WHAT DOES
AN ECHIDNA
DO WITH HIMSELF
"AFTERLIFE" IS
OVER? FIND
OUT IN OUR
LATEST
KNUCKLES
CHAPTER



HOW DO A
CYBERNETIC ECHIDNA
AND A HIP-HOP
CROC PUT PAST
DIFFERENCES
BEHIND THEM—
JULIE-SU AND
VECTOR HAVE
THE ANSWER



SPAZ
KIBEIRO

obsession



What you
really
want!





Arce/05

10784C THE HEDGEHOG (June 10780000, No. 122, June, 2005. Published every 4 weeks, twice in April by Archie Comics Publications, Inc., 325 Fayette Avenue, Marietta, GA 30067-2716, Richard H. Gaskins, President and Co-Publisher, Michael J. Silberman, Chairman and Co-Publisher. Single copies \$2.19 in the U.S., \$2.59 in Canada. Subscription rate: U.S. \$18.47 for 12 issues, \$13.87 in Canada. All Canadian orders payable in U.S. funds. © 2005 SEGA, Inc. The Hedgehog, and all related characters and names are either registered trademarks or trademarks of SEGA CORPORATION © 1989-2005. SEGA CORPORATION and SONICTEAM LTD/SEGA CORPORATION © 1989-2005. All Rights Reserved. The product is manufactured under license from Sega of America, Inc., 350 Townsend St., Ste. 600, San Francisco, CA 94103 www.sega.com. Any similarities between characters, names, persons, and/or institutions in this book and any living, dead, or fictional characters, names, persons, and/or institutions are not intended and if they are, are purely coincidental. Periodicals postage paid at the post office at Marietta, New York and at additional mailing offices. Title registered in U.S. patent office. POSTMASTER: send address changes to SONIC THE HEDGEHOG, c/o Archie Comics Publications, Inc., 325 Fayette Avenue, Marietta, GA 30067-2716. Printed in Canada.

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PRESENT

SONIC

THE HEDGEHOG

IN

CONCEP TOMAS

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VICTOR SCHLUCK

DRAWING EDITOR

JASON JENSEN

COLORIST

J.F. GABRIE

EDITOR

RICHARD SELLGATER

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

part
one

SPRINGTIME IN
KNOTHOLE...

WROO
NOTE SON.

SORRY,
DAD:

SEE, MISTER
HEDGEHOG, IF YOU
KNOW SO MUCH
ABOUT MUSICAL
INSTRUMENTS...

...WHY
DON'T YOU
PLAY 'EM
ANYMORE?

THESE ROBOTICIZED
FINGERS AREN'T NEARLY HUMBLE
ENOUGH TO PLUCK THOSE GUITAR
STRINGS, TAILS...

...BUT I CAN
STILL TEACH MY
BOY HOW!



AND AS THE BLUE BLUR
CONTINUES TO PLAY VARIOUS
CHORDS...

...MANY
GATHER...

...AND A CROWD SOON
FORMS AROUND THE
HEDGEHOGS FAMILY HUT.

AMONG
WHICH ARE...



...SOME VERY
FAMILIAR FACES.

HE'S A
NATURAL BORN
TALENT!

SO SUAVE...
SO SKILLED...
SO...

...SO
SONIC!



WELL, MINA GRL.
HERE GOES
NOTHING!







New Strawberry Blasted

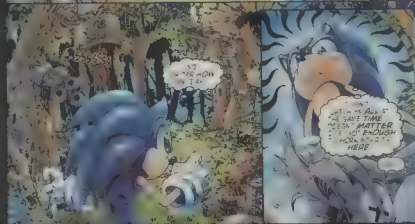
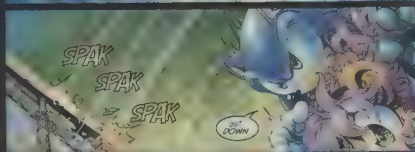
Honeycomb.

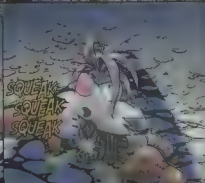
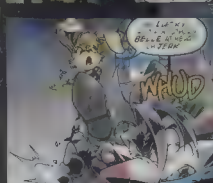
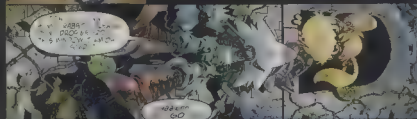
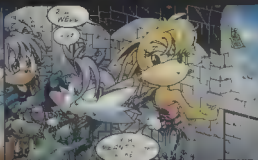
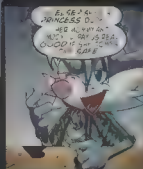
Wait'll you wrap your taste buds around it.

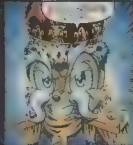


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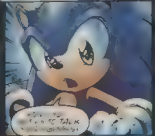


WHY "KING MAX" LEAVE?

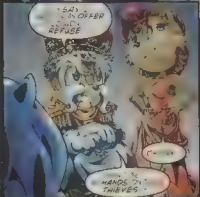
REASON

WE HAVE
NINETY-ONE
TO EIGHTY
NINE DEBTS
FOR "HIS"

SANCTUARY
MANSION PASSED
"HIS" TO "HIS" AT
HIS DEATH
ANCESTORS

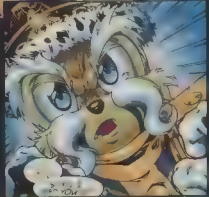


LET'S GO TO TALK
"HIS" "HIS" "HIS"



"SAY
"HIS" OFFER
"HIS" REFUSE

"HIS
HANDS "HIS"
THIEVES



"HIS
"HIS" YOU



WHILE EVERYONE ON THE FLOATING
ISLAND BELIEVES

REUNIONS

HAS DIED, OUR FAVORITE
ECHIDNA IS EXPERIENCING A
DIFFERENT REALITY ALTOGETHER

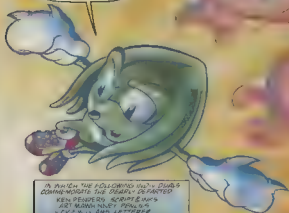
AFTERLIFE

Part Two

WAIT!

WHERE ARE YOU
TAKING ME?!

WHAT ABOUT THE
OTHER
GUARDIANS?!



IN WHICH THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS
COMMEMORATE THE DEARLY DEPARTED
KEN PENDER'S SCRIPTS AND
ART MANNING PENLIS
AND LETTERS
JENSEN COLORIST JIM NOBRE-EDITOR
IN RECALLING THE LIFE AND TIMES OF
SEGA'S UNBATTLED ECHIDNA!

YOU
GUYS GOT
A
NAME?



CAN YOU TELL
ME ANYTHING?!

HOLD ON
A SEC

HAH?!



WHERE'D YOU GO?!

HEY..

ANYBODY HERE?

WHOA! WHO TURNED ON THE SPOTLIGHT?!

DO NOT FEAR, KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA

YOU ARE FAR FROM ALONE!

YEAH, WELL..

PARDON ME F I CAN'T SEE THE CROWD

EVER THE DOUBTFUL ONE!

ALWAYS EXISTING IN THE HERE AND NOW.

HOW WOULD YOU KNOW ANYTHING OF WHAT I'M LIKE?

I KNOW
EVERYTHING
ABOUT YOU,
KNUCKLES!

RIIIIGHT!

LET ME
GUESS YOU'RE
ANOTHER
RELATIVE NO
ONE EVER TOLD
ME ABOUT!

IN A
MANNER OF
SPEAKING!

I AM
AURORA

BUT
YOU'RE--
YOU RE--

AN ECHIDNA?

THIS IS WHAT
YOU COMPREHEND
SO THIS IS WHAT YOU
PERCEIVE!

I AM OF THE FORCE
AND THE FORCE IS
ALL!

CHAMELEON,
FOX, OVERLANDER,
WHATEVER THE
SPECIES--

...THEY
SEE ME
HOW THEY
IMAGINE
ME!

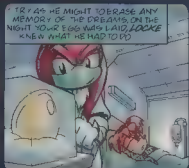
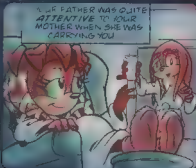
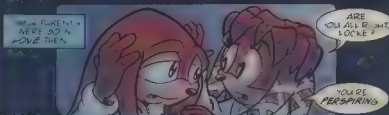
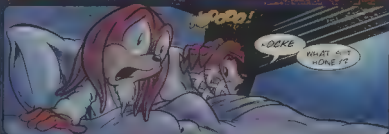
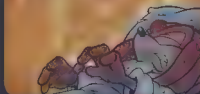
YOUR FATHER
SAW ME IN A
DREAM!

LIKE
THIS?

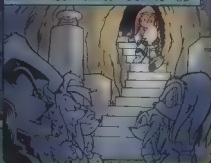
THE NIGHT WHEN A LITTLE FATHER
WAS DEEP INTO HIS DREAM WHEN
I CAME TO HIM AS A GOD
OF ARMAGEDDON

WHERE HE WAS A
MONSTER BENT ON
DESTRUCTION...

AND SALVATION IN THE
'ARM OF HIS ONLY SON'

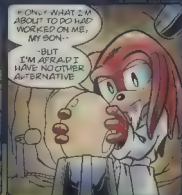


IN THE DEAS OF NIGHT HE TRAVELED TO THE CHAOS CHAMBER WHERE THE BROTHERHOOD AWAITED THE BOTH OF YOU.



"ONLY WHAT I'M ABOUT TO DO HAD WORKED ON ME, MY SON."

"-BUT I'M AFRAID I HAVE NO OTHER ALTERNATIVE."

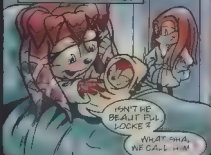


WITH BUT A MOMENT'S HESITATION LOCKE THEN THREW THE SWITCH THIS SUBJECTING YOUR EGG TO THE INTENSIVE ENERGIES OF THE CHAOS EMERALD...



"FORGIVE ME MY SON."

LESS THAN A DAY LATER YOU WERE WATCHED YOUR MOTHER UNWARE OF YOUR TRUE NATURE.



"ISN'T HE BEAUTIFUL LOCKE?"

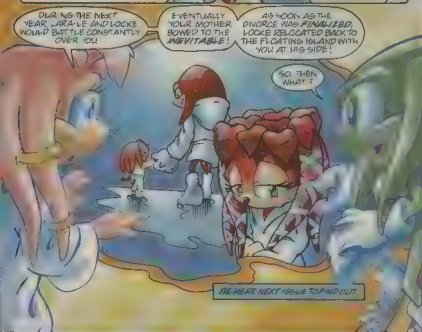
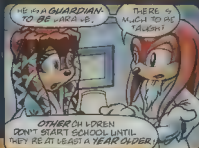
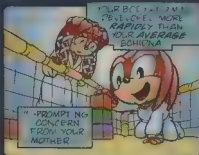
"WHAT SHALL WE CALL HIM?"

HE SHOWS A LOT OF SPUNK FOR A NEWBORN.

"WE SHALL CALL HIM KNUCKLES."

"-AFTER THE WARRIOR TRIBE HIS FAMILY DESCENDED FROM."





SLAM

SLAM

CHEESE TASTE THAT'S
IN YOUR FACE!

More 'Mmm' in the middle.

Tiny Ritz crackers deliver
a big cheese
CRUNCH!



Small text, likely a trademark or copyright notice.

Small text, likely a trademark or copyright notice.

TO BE SO...
WHERE THE HELL IS
HE?

KNUCKLES

HE'S LATE

NOW AS SHE SURVEYS
AND THAT REMAINS
SHE CONTEMPLATES
HER RELATIONSHIP
WITH HER CLOSEST
FRIEND

ALL THE TIME
I EVER SAW
KNUCKLES...

--AND NOT
ONCE DID I
EVER IMAGINE
HE LIKED TO
READ



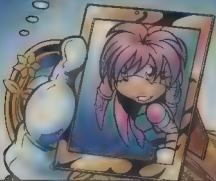
SHOWS WHAT
I KNOW

WITH THE USUAL GANG

SCRIPT BY JEFFREY L. BROWN
JENSEN - COLORIST JUSTIN GARDNER
--DISCUSSING ABOUT EVERYONE'S FAVORITE BOOKS--

WHAT REALLY
GETS ME STUCK--

KNOWING
I MATTERED
TO HIM



--BUT NOT KNOWING HOW MUCH
UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE!

HAH?!!

WHAT
YOU'RE DOING
INSIDE
THE MANS
CRIB?

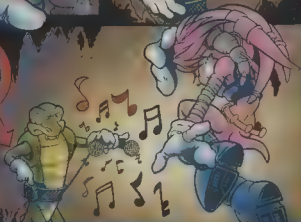


GET A GR P
VECTOR

IF YOU THINK FOR
ONE MOMENT I AM
GOING TO PUT UP WITH
YOUR GARBAGE

YOU'RE
GOING TO BE
ONE SORRY
CROC

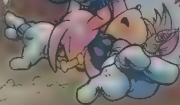
SEZ WHO?
YOU?



YOU OKAY
BABE?

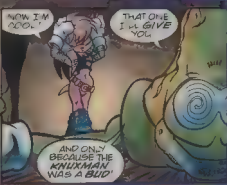
D'DN'T MEAN
TO BLAST YA
SO HARD

BAAAAM!





NOW I'M
COOL!



THAT ONE
I'LL GIVE
YOU

AND ONLY
BECAUSE THE
KNUXMAN
WAS A BUD!



THO WHAT HE
SAW IN YA'
I'LL NEVER
KNOW!

I COULD SAY THE
SAME ABOUT
YOU



"I'M NOT GONNA FRONT
N'CH - BUT HE DIDN'T
HAVE ANY CHOICE -"



"CUZ WHEN HE MET ME
HE FELL ON A BUTT!"



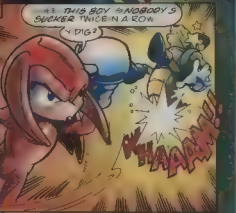
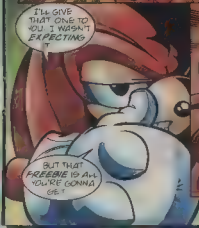
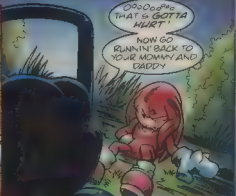
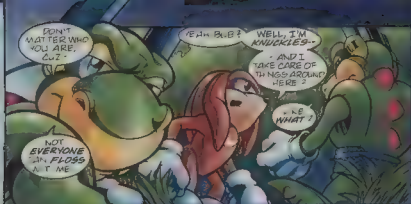
CAN'T A CROC JUST
CHILL WIT' HIS
TUNES?

DON'T NOBODY BE
MESSIN' WITH THE
VECTOR'S STYLIN'
AND PROFILIN'!!!

OH,
YEAH?

YOU
EVEN HAVE
A GUY WHO
I AM?

HEY!!!



NOT THE
SNOUT,
BRO

OOW!! THAT
REALLY
HURTS!

AWWW -
"YOU'RE BREAKIN'
MY HEART!"

NOW -

-- WE
CAN SQUASH
IT RIGHT
HERE

OR WE
CAN MIX IT UP
AGAIN.

HE? I JUST WANT TO LISTEN
TO MY TUNES, MAN

ALL RIGHT, THEN
WE'RE COOL. SO HOW'D
YOU GET HERE?

YOU'RE THE
FIRST LIVE BODY I'VE
BUMPED INTO -

YEAH! A PLANE LOAD OF
JS WERE AIR-LIFTED
FROM DOWN BELOW WHEN
SOME FREAKER STARTED
MESSIN' THINGS UP -

-BLIT, SIR, THE WHOLE LOT OF
THEM ARE GETTIN' AWAY

NOT FOR LONG!
CRABMEAT!

NO ONE CAN EVER
ESCAPE THE WRATH OF
DR ROBOTNIK!

-SINCE MY DAD
AND I RETURNED
TO THE FLOATING
ISLAND

WHERE YOU
BEEN, BOY?

THERE'S A
BUNCH A DUDES
AND BABES
DOWN THAT
WAY!

REALLY?
NO KIDDING?

INCLUDING
HIM

THAT'S MISTER
CATWEAZLE TO
YOU VECTOR

AND DON'T FORGET

PLEASED TO MEET YOU, AS WELL!

Y'KNOW

POOP!

HEY!!

KEY MAN

HOW ABOUT A TOWEL?

...AND KNUX AND I HAVE BEEN BEST BUDS EVER SINCE!

YOU'RE MORE MOUTH THAN FIGHTER, Y'KNOW THAT?

TH-NA, I'M SORRY!

THAT'S YOUR CALL

YEAH BUT IT DOESN'T DO WONDERS FOR THE REP TO LET THAT GET AROUND

THEN I'LL BE OUR SECRET VECTOR!

HE'D WANT IT THAT WAY!

YEAH, ABOUT KNUX. SEEN' YOU IN HIS STUFF-- THAT'S WHY I GOT ALL UP IN YOUR GRILL! I WAS TOO UPSET AFTER THE-- THE--
...SNIFFLE...

I KNOW!

IGLESS DESPITE ALL OUR DIFFERENCES, THAT'S THE ONLY THING YOU AND I HAVE IN COMMON
...ON FILE...

WE BOTH LOVED HIM DEARLY AND ARE ALL MISSING HIM TOGETHER

THE ONLY REASON ABOUT KNUX... IS THAT HE WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO WASN'T A LIAR

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on the loose in the mortal
realm, messing with her
life.



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ON PENCE BY VALMEE EMMEN



THIS JUST IN!

Warning: Just in here with the latest MW, we've been getting a lot of buzz about this two-part Sonic/Sally/Mina storyline. In fact, Sally supporters and Mina's fans have been having a war of words with each other! They both want their gal to end up with Sonic.

Surprisingly, the race between the two is running neck and neck. Of course, their fate has already been decided and will be revealed to you in "Heart Held Courage, Part 1," our issue. On another front, only two issues left before Sonic and his freedom fighters face their most dangerous situation yet! **SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #125** is starting to shape up to be one of the best issues I've ever had the pleasure of editing and art directing. Also, the biggest news about the issue is that Yip Haku, the man who created every single Sonic magazine we've ever played, is writing a special message to the issue. It is truly an honor to have Haku-san grace our pages... can't wait for you guys to read **SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #125**, but until then, let's find out what you think of the ones you have read. So without further ado, I give the floor over to Jan Penders with your letters. May the Force be with you!



As the countdown continues to our 125th issue, not only has it been tough trying to keep topping ourselves issue after issue, but it's getting tougher than ever figuring out which letters make the cut. Not only are more of you writing than ever before, but you're writing a lot more thoughtful commentary in addition to all the questions to add further to our burden, we're hearing from our international fans in ever-increasing numbers as well, as we start off with this entry from across the Atlantic

Be a Guy - is the over-the-top amount of a guy and what he's a... means his for us to write personally to each and every message. However, your opinion is so important to us and each message will be read. Also, due to space, we can't... same as correspondence may be... Thanks for understanding!

COMING
ATTRACTIONS

SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG



NO. 123

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SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #122

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Dear Sonic-Grams,

First of all I'd like to say I've been a fan of your comics for years (I'm a big Sonic fella), and the latest issue I got was 128, and it ruled! 'She's Got a New Hair' - personally, I think one of my favorite characters... can't wait 'til I see 'Sargherd' next issue... and Prince Elias' return. 'The Royal Signet' was great... and the Knuckles story ruled! Although, I'd really like to see Knuckles make a comeback of some... I hope he does!

The art by J. Aar looked cool in the first panel of 'She's Got a New Hair' was cool! I'm a bit of an artist myself (more like a watercolor artist), so I've submitted a picture to you guys of Sonic from Sonic Underground that I did on my computer, hoping it'll be featured in the fan art corner!

Speaking of the Sonic Underground... ever thinking of featuring Sonic and Manic in a story again? I love these guys - Manic's one of my favorite Sonic characters!

That's all for now - catch ya' on the flip side!
Laurie Decker-Pair, Age 14, Glasgow, Scotland, UK

While Sonic Underground isn't part of our continuity, you'll be hearing the names Sonia and Manic in upcoming issues. When or how will be a surprise you won't want to miss. And don't worry about Knuckles. While he may be going through quite a life-changing process at the moment, it's hard to keep a good echidna down.

Hello Sir,

I've started collecting your comics about a year ago and I've collected at least 24 issues from #92 or so, but I have a few comments and questions.

1. I have your plot in Sonic the Hedgehog! It flows smoothly with each issue and explains little by little all the things I don't know!
 2. Where were Elias and Queen Alicia before they were found by Knuckles' father?
 3. Mr. Hawthorne does a great job and has the most interesting (like the flower zoid in issue #128), but it seems all too classic and discarded. A short-legged Sonic with long spines? I don't know about you but I think it seems a little outta' place there. If he wants it to be a little like the classic Sonic, make it classic. If he wants it to be more modern, make it modern! Please, don't take it personally.
 4. I saw the "Knuckles" comic in a E-mart when I was around 6 or so. What happened to the series?
 5. Where the heck did Nina come from? It seems like she just popped outta' nowhere!
- Well, that's about it! Have a nice day and "Keep on joicin'" Jaha, Wecki signing off.
Jonathan Lee, 12, Seoul, Korea

Another nation not heard from before. Welcome aboard, Jonathan, and glad to hear you're enjoying our adventures. In quick succession: We try to present as much information as we can in any given issue so as to allow any new readers to jump on board; Elias and Queen Alicia lived in Haven during the early days after arriving on the Floating Island, the details of which can be found in SONIC #64 and KNUCKLES #19 through 21; We can see where you're coming from regarding your comments on Art's version, but that's through no fault of his own, and we here at Archie can't say enough about how great we think his work is; the Knuckles series was victim of the market conditions at the time unfortunately; and Nina's been around since SONIC #76.

Dear Sonic-Grams,

I have been a huge fan of everyone's love Min hedgehog for a long time now. But unfortunately I live in the UK so your Archie comics are quite hard to get hold of. But I have known Archie Sonic comics for a very long time and just recently actually purchased #118 and it was a great story to pick up on. Knuckles' death was very well done and couldn't have been done better. I love the art used in this comic.

I've just read #120, and for the first time I saw Min Hedgehog and I don't mind the character actually being new to me. In the UK, Fleetway Sonic comics ended some while ago, so I was itching for more Sonic (of course). Till say you couldn't beat the like Iliar but Shadow is one of my fave hedgehogs (where does Shadow appear in the Archie version, in a special)? I'm such a fan I even have the limited edition signed Ray Miska DC.

I've read your up-coming preview of #, 121, 122, 123, and I wish you good luck on that huge project. So if you do stick this in Sonic-Grams I'd be very pleased seeing as I am from the UK. Made Uper, UK.

Blade, Shadow initially appeared in SONIC #98, but not in the form in which you know him, 'cause even we didn't know what he looked like at the time. I suspect that you and everyone else that have been clamoring to see more of him will some get their wish in spades.

Hi,

In case you remember me (I hope not; I haven't written for years and that would be scary) I'm the one who wrote 4-6 letters with 100s of questions, and obviously they were never printed, but one of them was sort of answered in the comic, so it's cool. Any-who, my first issue was #136 and I've managed to collect all the rest since. And I have time to say: YOU ARE AWESOME! Lastly, I think your comic could use some improvement, and I feel it is my duty to save you from any further criticism before it is too late. I have a few suggestions to make:

Spar is your best artist, I suggest you feature his work on more stories.

A more practical suggestion would be to lose the 3-story theme except for on occasion. People are getting lost with all the characters you're shuffling around (not me of course) and it takes away from the guts of the other two. Try having even just 1 per book sometimes. Your best era was between around 10 to around 60. Try to see what you did differently since then.

Shadow is a future issue- Whoaaa??? Have you not played Sonic Adventure 2? If you have, please explain (if not at first, then later) how he is still alive. To be honest, E-102 has more reason to appear than Shadow. At least he had a little piece in Sonic Shuffle.

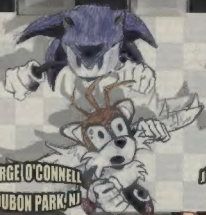
As far as the draw thing with the art is concerned, I think it's fine so long as you remember what your characters actually used to look like.

Ah, that magazine thing you're doing with your comic. loose it. It just looks stupid. You go on and on about how Sonic is the first video game character to have made this many issues and then you do this. People who see the comic will never take you seriously.

Sorry to have kept you from your, um, whatever it is that you do for so long. I know if this ever is printed there will be serious edits for space (as well as the whole plot section taken out). So, keep on Trekking! Oh wait- you're a Star Wars fan.

Dr. Chen

That's Justin, Karl and most of the artists. Doc. I'm a Trekker down to the bone, having grown up with Kirk and Spock. And, yeah, I had to whittle your letter down to let others get a word in edgewise, but you'll have to agree your overall point was made. It's opinions such as yours that help us keep on track making our series better all the time and hope to hear again from you on whether or not you agree with that assessment. As for Shadow, SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #124 will explain how Shadow survived his apparent demise at the end of the SONIC ADVENTURE 2 game.

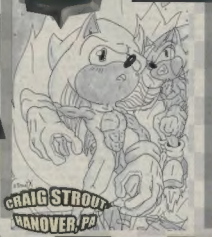


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If you'd like your
drawing printed,
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G/O Archie Comic
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